

Venue Rental FAQ's

DOES OMA PROVIDE CATERING SERVICES?

Our specialty is showcasing Southern California artists, so we leave the food art to the professionals. To help you get started, we have a list of Preferred Caterers to choose from that have the required licensing and already know their way around our museum space and well-equipped kitchen. If you have your own caterer pre-selected, we just require a walkthrough with them in advance along with proof of their appropriate food service license and liquor license if alcohol is being served. If interested in having a food truck for your special event, please inquire.

IS THERE PARKING AVAILABLE?

There is free street parking around the museum, including the Civic Center parking garage. Street parking may be impacted during Thursday markets and other local festivals. A great resource to check out is visitoceanside.org/events/ for information on any happenings in the area that could impact parking availability.

DO YOU HAVE FURNITURE AVAILABLE?

Yes, OMA has tables, chairs, AV equipment and more available for rent. Please request a copy of our Equipment Rental sheet for a full inventory list and pricing.

DO I NEED TO HAVE AN EVENT PLANNER?

The short answer is yes. Since we do not provide event planning services, OMA will need one point person to organize your event from start to finish. Often this person will also be your onsite day-of coordinator who will be responsible for managing all vendors and being OMA's point of contact. ** In the case of weddings, OMA requires wedding clients to have an event planner or dedicated point person who is not in the bridal party. Wedding clients must have a reliable day-of, on-site contact managing vendors, load-in, schedule, and guests so our Brides and Grooms (and their parents) can relax and know they are in good hands.

CAN WE START OUR EVENT BEFORE 5 PM?

At OMA, we consider the start of your event when your guests arrive. Because we are open to the public until 5 pm most days, we want to make sure our ticketed museum guests' experience is not disrupted by a private event and vice versa. We offer one hour of additional set up beginning at 4 pm, while our museum is still open. If you would like your event to start earlier than 5 pm, please inquire about our Early Closure Fee. If you would like to have your event during the day, you may want to consider a Monday or Tuesday, when OMA is closed to the public.

CAN I BOOK AN EVENT THAT IS OVER 5 HOURS LONG?

Of course! If necessary, an Early Museum Closure Fee or Additional Hour/s can be applied to your base rental fee. Event times must be confirmed prior to the signing of the contract. Changes can be negotiated and noted in an Addendum if necessary. Any events that last longer than the stated and agreed-upon rental times will automatically be charged an overtime fee.

HOW LATE CAN WE PLAY MUSIC?

The City of Oceanside has a 10 pm Sound Ordinance, therefore all outdoor music must be turned off at 10 pm.

DO OUR GUESTS HAVE ACCESS TO THE GALLERIES?

When renting the Entire Museum, your guests will have access to all of our currently installed exhibitions throughout your event. Please check with us to see which Exhibitions will be up at the time of your event. OMA frequently changes its exhibitions, so a gallery may be closed for installation at the time of your event. If you are renting a portion of the museum, you will have access to select exhibitions adjacent to your event space. Additional staff can be hired at a cost to have access to all galleries without the Entire Museum rental. No food/drinks are allowed in the galleries at any time. OMA will have tables at the entrance of each gallery that your guests can place their drinks on prior to enjoying the art.